CLAIMS

WE CLAIM:

1. In a wireless communication system adapted for packet data transmissions, the system having at least one mobile station with pending data at a transmitter, a method comprising:

calculating a packet delay time for a first receiver of the at least one mobile station with pending data;

comparing the packet delay time to a first threshold;

if the packet delay time violates the first threshold, calculating a first delay term;

calculating a priority function for the first receiver using the first delay term; and

scheduling transmissions to the receiver according to the priority function.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the packet delay time is calculated as: $g(d)=k$ for packet delay time greater than the first threshold.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the packet delay time is calculated as: $g(d)=DRC_{MAX}/DRC_{AVE}$ for packet delay time greater than the first threshold, wherein DRC_{MAX} is a maximum of DRC values for receivers in an active set of the transmitter, and wherein DRC_{AVE} is an average DRC value for the first receiver.

4. In a wireless communication system adapted for packet data transmissions, a method comprising:

identifying a user having a packet delay higher than a threshold; and

adjusting the priority of the user while the packet delay is higher than the threshold.